of Shrimp Resources submitted in September, 1984, shrimp resources of the country beyond 50 metres depth could support a fleet of 202 vessels of 20 metres and above. However, there is not much scope for the introduction of additional small mechanised vessels.

(c) There are no reports of deep sea fishing vessels of 20 metres and above not being operated for 9 to 10 months in a year, although a number of small mechanised boats operating in the coastal areas are idle for varying periods in a year on account of bad weather, maintenance and seasonal nature of prawns and other quality fish.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Government propose to improve the infrastructure facilities such as fishing harbours, landing centres and establishment of processing and storage facilities which would improve the operational efficiency and economic viability of the boats which in turn would lead to increased fishing effort and better utilisation of the boats.

Outstanding Sugar cane Arrears from Sugar Mills

817. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the sugar factory owners in private sector, public sector and cooperative sector under the Central Government have not fully paid the cane dues of the farmers of the season 1984-85 all over the country;

(b) whether the cane growers in U. P. and Bihar are the worst sufferers in this respect because the State Government corporations have also not cleared the entire cane dues of the cane growers of the year 1984-85; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to see the mill owners pay the entire dues of the cane growers for the year 1984-85, what is the amount due from the mill owners in respect of sugar cane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The sector-wise position of payment of cane price by sugar mills in the country for the 1984-85 season as on 30-9-85 is given below:—

(Figures in Crores Rupees)

Particulars	Public	Cooperative	Private	Total
1. Total price payable for sugarcane purchased during 1984-85 upto 30-9-85	101.24	735.11	424.26	1260.61
2. Price paid upto 30-9-85	92.77	721.86	414.84	1229.47
3. Arrears Outstanding on 30-9-85 (1—2)	8.47	13.25	9.42	31.14

No arrears for 1984-85 season are standing against sugar mills taken over by the Central Government under the Sugar Undertakings (Taking Over of Management) Act, 1978.

(b) The sector-wise position of payment of cane price for 1984-85 season, as on 30-9-85, in respect of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Ensuring payment of cane price arrears is the direct responsibility of the State Governments, who have the necessary field organisations and powers to enforce such payments. The Central Government mo-

mentors the position and issues directions to State Governments from time to time, for expeditious clearance of cane price arrears.

The Central Government, on its part, has been taking steps aimed at improving the liquidity of the industry to enable it to pay the cane dues. The steps taken over the last, 2-3 credit facilities, reduction in bank credit facilities, reduction in bank margins on credit against sugar stocks, change in the method of valuation of sugar stocks for credit purposes to the benefit of the industry, judicious monthly releases of free-sale sugar for maintaining desired level of prices etc.

As result of the efforts of the Central and State Governments, out of the total cane price of Rs. 1260.6 crores, for 1984-85 season, only about Rs 31 crores remained to be cleared as on 30-9-85. The Corresponding arrears at the end of the 1983-84 season, i.e. on 30-9-84, were about Rs. 52 crores.

Statement

Sector-wise position of payment of cane price for 1984-85 *season, as on* 30-9-85, *in respect of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.*

(Figures in Lakh Rs.)

Particulars	UTTAR PRADESH				BIHAR			
	Public	Co-opera-tive	Private	Total	Public	Co-opera-tive	Private	Total
1 Total price payable for sugarcane purchased during 1984-85 up to 30-9-85	4396·40	6903·40	21704·00	33003·80	165·16	..	2963·46	3128·62
2 Price paid up to 30-9-85	4096·12	6641·78	21151·64	31883·54	103·77	..	2801·05	2904·82
3 Arrears outstanding as on 30-9-85 (1 = 2)	300·28	261·62	552·36	1114·26	61·39	..	162·41	223·80